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GREECE, TURKEY AND THE EEC

ANNCR:

GREECE AND TURKEY WERE THE FIRST TWO COUNTRIES TO BECOME ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET, BOTH SIGNING AGREEMENTS WITH THE COMMUNITY IN THE EARLY SIXTIES. BUT AS EDIE APPLE DISCUSSES IN THIS REPORT, THEIR RELATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPE NOW ARE MOVING AT DIFFERING SPEEDS.

VOICE:

THE NINETEEN-SIXTY-TWO AGREEMENT BETWEEN GREECE AND THE COMMON MARKET CALLED FOR GREECE TO BECOME A FULL MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY BY NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR. THIS AGREEMENT WAS SUSPENDED AFTER THE MILITARY COUP IN NINETEEN SIXTY-SEVEN, BUT PUT BACK INTO FORCE WHEN THE COLONELS WERE OVERTHROWN A YEAR AND A HALF AGO. GREECE NOW SAYS IT IS READY TO BE A FULL MEMBER AS SOON AS NEGOTIATIONS CAN BE COMPLETED. AND THE COMMUNITY HAS AGREED.

AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER, GREECE ALREADY HAS MANY ECONOMIC BENEFITS SUCH AS DUTY FREE ENTRY OF ALL INDUSTRIAL GOODS. FULL MEMBERSHIP PRIMARILY WILL BRING RESPONSIBILITIES AND CHALLENGES. FOR EXAMPLE, GREECE WILL HAVE TO GRANT THE SPECIAL CONCESSIONS THE COMMUNITY IS NOW NEGOTIATING WITH ALL HER MEDITERRANEAN NEIGHBORS. BUT THE GREEKS, WHO HAVE A PER CAPITA INCOME EQUAL TO THAT OF IRELAND, ARE CONFIDENT THEY CAN COMPETE. AND MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMON MARKET IS POLITICALLY IMPORTANT, TO UNDERLINE

THAT GREECE IS A WESTERN DEMOCRATIC STATE. ALL GREEK POLITICIANS EXCEPT THE COMMUNISTS SUPPORT THE APPLICATION. AND IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO THE CURRENT NINE MEMBERS TO GIVE SUPPORT TO GREECE'S DEMOCRATIC TRADITION. THEY THEREFORE SAY THEY ARE WILLING TO FACE ANY ECONOMIC PROBLEMS THE NEW MEMBER WILL CREATE. GREECE IS RELATIVELY SMALL AND THE ECONOMIC IMPACT WON'T BE TOO GREAT. BUT GREEK NEED FOR DEVELOPMENT FUNDS WILL CAUSE A DRAIN OF THE COMMUNITY BUDGET.

TURKEY'S AGREEMENT WITH THE COMMON MARKET ALSO CALLS FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP, BUT IN THE NINETEEN NINETIES. THIS WOULD CAUSE MORE PROBLEMS OF ADJUSTMENT FOR THE COMMUNITY BECAUSE TURKEY HAS FOUR TIMES THE POPULATION AND ONE THIRD THE PER CAPITA INCOME OF GREECE. BUT ALL TURKS ARE NOT SURE THEY WANT TO BECOME A FULL MEMBER OF A WESTERN EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET AND TURKEY AT PRESENT IS NOT PUSHING FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP. WHAT THE TURKS WANT NOW IS TO MAINTAIN A PRIVILEGED POSITION AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER. THEY COMPLAIN THAT THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE COMMON MARKET HAVE ERODED RECENTLY. BUT THIS IS NOT SO MUCH A RESULT OF GREEK STEPS TOWARDS FULL MEMBERSHIP AS OF THE PREFERENTIAL TRADE AGREEMENTS THE COMMUNITY IS WORKING OUT WITH ALMOST ALL MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES. AS A RESULT OF TURKISH COMPLAINTS, EARLIER THIS MONTH THE COMMON MARKET FOREIGN MINISTERS AGREED TO HELP TURKEY DIVERSIFY ITS AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS, TO INCREASE FINANCIAL AID TO TURKEY, AND TO GIVE

TURKISH WORKERS ALL THE BENEFITS GRANTED OTHER FOREIGN WORKERS.

OBVIOUSLY IT WOULD BE EASIER FOR ALL CONCERNED IT IF GREECE AND TURKEY RESOLVE THEIR DISPUTES BEFORE GREECE BECOMES A FULL MEMBER.

THE WESTERN EUROPEANS CLEARLY DO NOT WANT TO TAKE SIDES IN THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. NOR DO THEY WANT TO GIVE EITHER SIDE CAUSE TO TURN AWAY FROM DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT AND THE WEST. COMMON MARKET LEADERS SAY GREEK PROGRESS TOWARDS FULL MEMBERSHIP WILL HAVE NO EFFECT ON THE COMMUNITY'S RELATIONS WITH TURKEY.

THEY SPEAK OF THEIR DESIRE TO DEEPEN THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT WITH TURKEY AND PROMISE TO CONSULT THE TURKS ON THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GREEKS. THIS AND REGULAR POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS ARE PROVIDED FOR ANYWAY IN THE PRESENT ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT. AND COMMON MARKET SPOKESMAN HAVE POINTED TO THE COD WAR BETWEEN BRITAIN AND ICELAND AS AN EXAMPLE OF A DISPUTE INVOLVING AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER, BUT NOT THE WHOLE COMMUNITY.

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